

Application No. 09/800,504
Reply to Office Action of May 21, 2003

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 are pending; Claims 10-25 are withdrawn from consideration; and no claims have been newly added, amended, or canceled herewith.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-9, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Specifically, the Office Action states at page 2 that there is not a written description of the claim limitation "wherein current does not flow through said heat radiating element to said heating elements." However, at page 6, lines 19-23, the specification states, "Note that the heat radiating element does not include a member serving as a path for supplying a current to the heating elements."

Additionally, the specification describes at page 20, lines 5-8, that an insulating element (glaze glass 3) is interposed between the projection 2 and the electrode 15 and between the projection 2 and the electrode 25. Precisely, the specification states, "a part of the glaze glass on the side of the heating element 14 and a part of the side of the heating element 24 are connected to each other via a connection part 3a." The glaze glass 3 is earlier described as an insulated element at page 19, line 24. From this description, it is evident that the non-limiting embodiment of Figure 1 features the projection 2 insulated from the electrodes 15 and 25, and current does not flow through the projection 2.

Additionally, in the non-limiting illustrations of Figures 2 and 3, it is evident that the projection 42 does not contact electrode 15 or electrode 25. For example, in Figures 2B and 3B, there are gaps between the electrodes and the edge of the projection 42. The outermost layer, which covers the electrodes, is made of an insulating material. If the cover layer were

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electrically conductive, the conductor patterns 17a and 17b would be short-circuited. Consequently, it is evident that the projection 42 is insulated from the electrodes 15 and 25, and that current does not flow through the projection 42 in the non-limiting embodiment of Figures 2 and 3.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that there is support within the originally filed specification for the limitation recited in Claim 1 that "current does not flow through said heat radiating element to said heating elements."

Consequently, in view of the foregoing discussion, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection of Claims 1-9, 26, and 27 be withdrawn, and it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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